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## **PRESS RELEASE**

Lynne A. McNamara, Ph.D.  
*Executive Director*

### **INTERVIEWS FOR 2015 VEF FELLOWSHIPS AND VISITING SCHOLAR GRANTS**

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*Hanoi, July 25, 2014* – The Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) announces the visit to Vietnam by a delegation of ten U.S. scientists and professors from July 29 to August 7, 2014, to interview candidates for the VEF Fellowships and Visiting Scholar grants for the 2015 Cohort. This cohort of Fellows will begin graduate studies in the United States in the fall of 2015 in the fields supported by VEF, namely, the sciences (natural, physical, and environmental), engineering, mathematics, medicine (typically public health), and technology (including information technology). The successful Vietnamese Visiting Scholars will be participating in postdoctoral training at U.S. universities in academic year 2015-2016.

During the selection process, the U.S. scientists and professors will conduct oral exams/interviews for 105 VEF Fellowship and Visiting Scholar grant finalists in order to select the most talented individuals with the greatest potential and promise for graduate study or postdoc training in the United States. All VEF Fellowship applicants were required to have taken the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test in order to be considered for the Fellowship competition and to have demonstrated competency in English, generally through the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). While in Vietnam, the U.S. delegation will also conduct **11** scientific lectures and meetings at **5** universities, at the Vietnam International Education Development (VIED) which is under the Ministry of Education and Training, and **2** EducationUSA Advising Centers in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

Dr. Lynne McNamara, VEF Executive Director, commented, "The Vietnam Education Foundation is proud to be a part of the development of the sciences, technology engineering, mathematics, and medicine for Vietnam. The highly recognized VEF Fellowship Program enables the best minds of Vietnam to pursue their dreams of getting a graduate degree in these fields in one of the outstanding research universities in the United States. VEF expects to send more than **30** new Fellows to begin graduate programs and at least **1** new Visiting Scholar to do postdoctoral training in the United States in the fall of 2015."

An initiative of the U.S. Congress, the Vietnam Education Foundation, which is a U.S. Federal Government agency, began operations in 2003. As its flagship activity, the VEF Fellowship Program has placed **504** Fellows at **96** top U.S. graduate institutions for Master's and Ph.D. degrees. The VEF Visiting

Scholar Program provides opportunities for Vietnamese to pursue postdoctoral programs at U.S. universities from 5 to 12 months. In addition, the U.S. Faculty Scholar Program allows for U.S. professors to teach at Vietnamese universities for one or two terms either on site in Vietnam or via real-time interactive videoconferencing. VEF Fellows and Visiting Scholars are required to return to Vietnam upon completion of their academic programs in the United States. As of July 2014, VEF has a network of 289 Alumni: 221 Fellows, 38 Visiting Scholars, and 30 U.S. Faculty Scholars.

For more information on VEF, please visit the VEF website at [www.vef.gov](http://www.vef.gov).

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